

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

On page 16, line 1, please delete the current heading "Claims" and insert the following new heading:

--What is claimed is:--

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A security and/or ~~value~~ valuable document, ~~in particular including~~ a banknote, comprising a paper support, ~~a (1) of a paper material and an in particular strip form or thread form~~ film element (2) which has one or more optical security features, ~~and a sealing layer~~, wherein the support (1) has one or more window-shaped openings ~~(31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36)~~ which are closed by means of the film element (2) which projects beyond the openings ~~(31 to 36)~~ on all sides,

~~characterised in that a~~ the sealing layer ~~(4, 5, 6) which~~ covers the surface of the film element (2) at least in the region of the openings ~~(31 to 36) is~~, the sealing layer being applied to the side of the support ~~(1) of a paper material~~, which is in opposite relationship to the film element~~[.] (2) and that~~ the sealing layer (4) ~~is being~~ formed from a lacquer layer which is applied by at least one of printing, pouring, sprinkling ~~or and~~ spraying.

2. (Currently Amended) A security and/or ~~value~~ valuable document according to claim 1 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the sealing layer (4, 5, 6) covers at least 80% of the surface of the film element (2) ~~at least for 80%.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A security and/or ~~value~~ valuable document according to claim 1, wherein one of the preceding claims characterised in that the area of the sealing layer (4) has 100 to 120% of the area of the film element (2).

4. (Currently Amended) A security and/or ~~value~~ valuable document according to claim 1, wherein one of the preceding claims characterised in that the sealing layer (4, 5, 6) is transparent.

5. (Currently Amended) A security and/or ~~value~~ valuable document according to claim 1, wherein one of the preceding claims characterised in that at least one of the sealing layer (4, 5, 6) and/or the film element (2) ~~is/are~~ overprinted with a printing at least in region-wise manner.

6. (Currently Amended) A security and/or ~~value~~ valuable document according to claim 1, wherein one of the preceding claims characterised in that the sealing layer (4) is of a thickness in the range of 2 to 10 μm .

7. (Currently Amended) A security and/or ~~value~~ valuable document according to claim 6, wherein characterised in that the sealing layer (4) is applied by printing to the support (4) by means of a screen printing process, ~~preferably by means of a flat screen.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A security and/or value valuable document according to claim 6, wherein one of claims 6 and 7 characterised in that the lacquer layer has an expansion coefficient which approximately corresponds to the expansion coefficient of the film element (2).

9. (Currently Amended) A security and/or value valuable document according to one claim 1 wherein one of the preceding claims characterised in that the sealing layer (4) has an expansion coefficient which approximately corresponds to the expansion coefficient of the film element (2), wherein in particular the length expansion coefficient and/or the modulus of elasticity of the film element (2) approximately corresponds to that of the sealing layer (4).

10. (Currently Amended) A security and/or value valuable document according to claim 9 characterised in that wherein the sealing layer (4) has a length expansion coefficient which differs from a length expansion coefficient of the film element (2) by not more than 10%[,] ~~preferably not more than 5%.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A security and/or value valuable document according to claim 9, wherein one of claims 9 and 10 characterised in that the sealing layer (4) has a modulus of elasticity which differs from the modulus of elasticity of the film element (2) by not more than 10%[,] ~~preferably not more than 5%.~~

12. (New) A security and/or valuable document according to claim 10, wherein the difference between length expansion coefficients is not more than 5%.

13. (New) A security and/or valuable document according to claim 11, wherein the difference between moduli of elasticity is not more than 5%.

14. (New) A security and/or valuable document, comprising:
- a paper support including at least one opening;
 - a film element including at least one optical security feature, said film element covering said at least one opening and at least a portion of said support surrounding said at least one opening, said film element disposed on a first side of said support; and
 - a sealing layer covering said at least one opening, said sealing layer disposed on a second side of said support opposed to said first side, wherein said sealing layer includes a lacquer.
15. (New) A security and/or valuable document according to Claim 14, wherein said security document includes a bank note.
16. (New) A security and/or valuable document according to Claim 14, wherein said sealing layer is applied by at least one of printing, pouring, sprinkling and spraying.